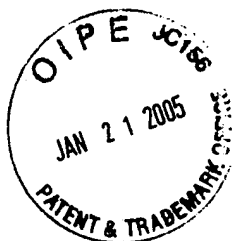


PATENT



Docket No. RSW920010045US1

EFW
2143

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INVENTORS: Jeffrey Scott Chase and Ronald P. Doyle

APPLICATION NO. 09/894,016

FILED: June 28, 2001

Examiner: B. Jaroenchonwanit

CASE NO. RSW920010045US1

Group Art Unit: 2143

TITLE: METHOD, SYSTEM AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT
FOR HIERARCHICAL LOAD BALANCING

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence, along with any paper indicated as being enclosed, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on January 18, 2005.

January 18, 2005
Date


Lynn M. White

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111
TO EXAMINER'S ACTION MAILED SEPTEMBER 16, 2004**

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed September 16, 2004, having a period for response set to expire on December 16, 2004. A Petition for a one-month Extension of Time is submitted herewith, thereby extending the date for response to January 18, 2005 (January 16 being a Sunday and January 17 being a Federal holiday). The following remarks are respectfully submitted.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.